

**CITY OF MUSKEGON, MI**  
**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-88(G)**

**A RESOLUTION TO URGE THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR TO APPROVE THE  
PETITION OF THE GRAND RIVER BANDS OF OTTAWA INDIANS FOR FEDERAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians (GRBOI) are signatories to numerous treaties with the United States Federal Government, establishing a sovereign-to-sovereign relationship beginning with the 1795 Treaty of Greenville, and continuing through the 1807 Treaty of Detroit, the 1821 Treaty of Chicago, and the 1836 Treaty of Washington; and

**WHEREAS**, this sovereign relationship was further solidified by the Treaty of Detroit (1855), which set aside a specific reservation for the Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians located in western Michigan, including areas north of the Grand River, in and around Muskegon and Grand Rapids; and

**WHEREAS**, the Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians are the political successor-in-interest to the Grand River Ottawa people, and their relationship with the United States has been consistent with other recognized Michigan treaty tribes; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Michigan recognized the Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians in 1996 as a historic Indian tribe that continues to exist as a tribal entity; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1997, the United States Congress, in anticipation of formal federal acknowledgment, passed the Michigan Indian Land Claims Settlement Act (P.L. 105-143), which included provisions for land claim settlements for the Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians; and

**WHEREAS**, the Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians filed Petition #146 for federal acknowledgment with the United States Department of the Interior, Office of Federal Acknowledgment, in 1994, and that petition remains pending after decades of delay; and

**WHEREAS**, this undue delay has caused significant harm to the members of the Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians, depriving them of crucial opportunities to support their community in areas such as housing, health care, public safety, and education;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Muskegon urges the United States Department of the Interior to approve the petition of the Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians for federal acknowledgment in an expeditious manner;

**AND, BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of Michigan, the United States Secretary of the Interior, and other relevant officials.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Commissioner Keener and supported by Commissioner German and same was duly passed at a general session of the City of Muskegon City Commission, with the vote as follows:

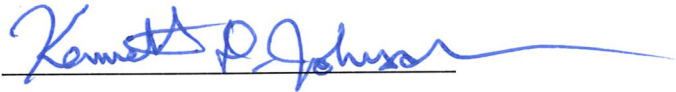
Yeas: Kochin, St.Clair, Johnson, Kilgo, Keener, German, and Gorman

Nays: None

Absent: None

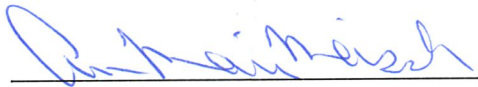
Adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2024.

By:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kenneth D. Johnson", written over a horizontal line.

Kenneth D. Johnson, Mayor

By:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ann Marie Meisch", written over a horizontal line.

Ann Marie Meisch, MMC – City Clerk

#### CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City Commission of the City of Muskegon, County of Muskegon, Michigan at a regular meeting held on October 22, 2024.

By:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ann Marie Meisch", written over a horizontal line.

Ann Marie Meisch, MMC – City Clerk